

Below is an update on the Iowa Health and Wellness Plan and Health Insurance Marketplace:

<u>Iowa Health and Wellness Plan</u>

Join Iowa Medicaid! Training Webinar on Medically Exempt Process: On Tuesday, March 4 from 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m., Iowa Medicaid will hold a training webinar on the Medically Exempt. The webinar will walk through a new Medically Exempt provider toolkit, and help answer questions about the provider referral process, benefits, member communication and more. To register for the webinar, please click here. Questions about the webinar may be directed to Virginia Tonelli at vtonell@dhs.state.ia.us.

Dental Wellness Plan Goals Directly Address Concerns Reported in Recent Dental Study: The University of Iowa's Public Policy Center has released a study examining the Iowa Medicaid dental program, focusing on the factors that affect Iowa dentist participating in the Medicaid program. The study points to administrative burdens, reimbursement rates and other factors that lead to low dentist participation.

The goals of the new Dental Wellness Plan, set to begin May 1, 2014, align directly with the areas of concern highlighted in the study. The Dental Wellness Plan aims to provide better reimbursement rates, contract with a commercial dental carrier and provide member incentives to promote good oral health behaviors. Additional details about the new Dental Wellness Plan will be released in the coming weeks. Access the proposal for the program here, and access a short fact sheet about the plan here. View the full study from the Public Policy Center here.

Enrollment Update for the lowa Health and Wellness Plan: Enrollment in the lowa Health and Wellness Plan continues to increase daily. As of Monday, Feb. 17, 2014, current statewide enrollment is as follows:

- Iowa Wellness Plan (0-100% of the Federal Poverty Level): 56,108
- Iowa Marketplace Choice Plan (101-133% of the Federal Poverty Level): 13,255
- Total Iowa Health and Wellness Plan Enrollment: 69,363

Health Insurance Marketplace

Help Consumers Share their Story: CMS has announced a new feature on HHS.gov, "Share Your Story", encouraging people benefiting from the Affordable Care Act to share their coverage stories, including those newly covered through the Health Insurance Marketplace. Please encourage a variety of recipients to share their experience to help others see themselves in this program and be motivated to find out what is in it for them. You will find the link to the story submission here.

Webinars on the Health Care Law: The HHS Partnership Center has updated one-hour webinars on the health care law. All webinars are open to the public and include a question and answer session. The remaining webinar will be held on Feb. 20, 2014.

 Questions and Answers on the ACA: If you have questions about the health care law, the Affordable Care Act, this is the webinar for you! We will answer questions that have been submitted in advance as well as new questions asked during the webinar. The webinar will be held on February 20 at 12:00 p.m. CT.

Please feel free to share this information with others in your organization or your community. If you'd like to subscribe to these email notifications, please email "subscribe" along with your name, organization and contact information to IMECommunications@dhs.state.ia.us.

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